In the current financial year 2005-2006, there have been 141* consequential train accidents during April to October 2005, as compared to 133* during the corresponding period of last year.

(c) and (d) Safety is the prime concern on Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken to prevent accidents. These measures include adoption of suitable and modern technologies for interlocking and signaling system, upgradation of standards of track and rolling stock, modernization of maintenance practices, replacement of overaged assets, upgradation of training aids like simulators, checks on observance of safety precautions and provision of Anti Collision Device.

*Figures are provisional.

Gauge conversion of Jaipur-Ringas-Sikar-Loharu Rail Line

426. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of gauge conversion on rail route Jaipur-Ringas-Sikar-Loharu in North West Zone is under consideration;

(b) whether the said work is proposed to be covered under BOT; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Updating survery for gauge conversion of Loharu-Sikar-Churu-Ringus-Jaipur has been taken up.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The decision will be based on results of the survey.

Gauge conversion projects

427. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial allocation for the gauge conversion projects for the past three years, State-wise;

(b) the total number of kilometers converted from metre-gauge to broad-gauge during the past three years, State-wise;